



Timely Tidbits ...

Rummage Sale Set

Heritage Park Church of God (12550 Pardee Road, Taylor) is planning a rummage sale on Saturday, September 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rental space is available for \$15. For information, call 734-287-8630 or send an e-mail to hpcog@att.net.

Family Fun Day

Cutting Edge Ministry (9426 Wayne Road, Romulus) is inviting everyone to stop by at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 13, for Family Fun Day. The free event will feature music, hamburgers and hot dogs, drinks, and more. For information, call 734-955-9133.

Waterfowl Fest and Duck Hunters Tourney

The Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival & Michigan Duck Hunters Tournament – to be held the week-end of September 20–21 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area (37205 Pointe Mouillee Road, Brownstown) – will feature river events, a wildlife art show, decoy contests, duck- and goose-calling contests, a retriever demonstration/seminar, a trading post, an auction, and kids' activities (including archery and BB gun contests, a make-your-own-fishing-lure class, and a duck identification class). For information, visit www.miwaterfowlfest.org/.

Golf Invitational Pays Tribute to McGrane

The 3rd annual Matt McGrane Memorial 5-iron Golf Invitational will be held at the Woodlands of Van Buren (39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne) on Saturday, September 27, beginning at 8 a.m. The 18-hole, shotgun-format tournament – open to ages 16+ – will be played in four-person teams.

An entry fee of \$65 per player covers a cart, use of the driving range beforehand, and a meal afterward. Tickets for a 50/50 raffle will be \$1 each. Proceeds will go into a college fund for Matt's son, Jess.

Registrations (limit: 72) will be accepted on a first-come/first-served basis. Deadline: September 15.

For more information, contact Jess McGrane (734-942-1244). □

Festivals Make Most of Michigan's Fall Color Season



Due to high gas prices, travel experts are predicting that many Michigan residents will choose destinations that are relatively close to home for their fall color excursions. Photo by Ann Kreutzer

During the next two months, communities and businesses throughout Michigan will be hosting festivals and fairs that focus on fall colors and other seasonal attractions/activities such as harvest celebrations and Halloween. These festivals are expected to be popular destinations for Michigan travelers, many of whom will be staying closer to home for their fall excursions due to the high price of gasoline.

Below is a sampling of events that can be found within about 100 miles of the western Wayne County area. For additional details, or for a list of other events statewide, visit www.michigan.org/Things-to-Do/Events/Fairs-and-Festivals/.

A-maizing Corn Harvest (Albion)

Saturday, October 4

This harvest event is centered around agriculture and the history of farming. Highlights will include demonstrations of rope-making, cooking over open fire in-ground, and blacksmithing, as well as attractions like antique tractors and farm equipment, an old-fashioned farmers market, a quilt show, a "historic walk," local museum exhibits, Amish crafts and arts & crafts, "hay art," a corn maze, pumpkin painting, a scarecrow contest, old-fashioned games (gunnysack races, etc.), hog-calling and sheep-shearing contests, a barnyard petting zoo, cow-milking, horse-drawn wagon rides for old and young, old-fashioned live music, and foods of yesteryear. Call 517-629-5533.

Pumpkin Train (Coldwater)

October 4–5, 11–12, 18–19, and 25–26

Get your Halloween pumpkins and enjoy the fall scenery. For more information, visit www.littleriverrailroad.com.

Crossroads Ghosts and Goodies (Flint)

October 4–5, 10–12, 17–19, and 24–31

Meet friendly witches, happy ghosts, and lots of spooky friends! Walk through an enchanted forest where trees have eyes ... watch an old-fashioned magic show ... and ride the Huckleberry Ghost Train Express! It's all fun, not frightening, and there are doughnuts, cider, and candy for everyone! Call 800-648-7275 or 810-736-7100.

Pumpkin Quest (Brooklyn)

Saturday, October 11

Fall fun features an all-pumpkin theme: pumpkin bowling, painting, mini-golf, etc. Call 517-592-8907.

Apple Butter Festival (Lansing)

Saturday–Sunday, October 18–19

The folks at Fennel Nature Center invite you to stir a century-old copper kettle full of bubbling hot apple butter and watch craftspeople display their skills in making pottery, lace, wool, and herbal soaps and lotions. Kids' activities include candle dipping and cider pressing. Sample the apple butter, which is available for purchase. And, don't forget to spend some time on the trails enjoying the fall color. Call 517-483-4224.

Treat Walk (Lapeer)

Saturday, October 25

Downtown Lapeer businesses give away treats from noon to 2 p.m. There is also pumpkin carving, hot cider, and children's events. Call 810-272-7202.

Local Events

Of course, the best way to save on gas is to stay at home for events like the Romulus Pumpkin Festival (September 19–21), Huron Township Applefest (October 4–5), and Taylor's Fall Fest (October 11). □

FAQs About Fall Color

What is the best time to view Michigan's fall color?

Generally, the annual seasonal show peaks in stages, beginning at the top of the Upper Peninsula (where it gets cooler first) and then moving southward. Peak color usually is found in the UP between mid September and early October; in the northern Lower Peninsula between late September and mid October; in mid Michigan from early to mid October; and in the southern LP from mid to late October.

However, since color patterns greatly depend on weather and other factors, it's best to call ahead before choosing your destination.

What causes the leaves to change color?

Weather conditions in early September largely determine how brilliant each season's color will be. If there are bright, sunny days and cool nights during that period, a great show can be anticipated.

Daylight length is also a determinant. Shorter days cause leaves to stop producing chlorophyll and lose their green color, and to begin the process that causes leaves to drop.

Rain is yet another factor. Trees that don't receive enough rain during the summer become stressed, and are less likely to produce vibrant color in the fall. Some autumn rain is desirable, but continuous, warm, cloudy weather is not, since that would hinder the sugar production that creates the brilliant reds and golds found in oaks and maples, Michigan's most prevalent tree species.

How many tree species are there, and what colors do they turn?

Michigan is lucky. There are nearly 150 different species of trees in our 18.6 million acres of forest, with a colorful mix of reds, oranges, yellows, and golds. Such hardwoods as aspen, maple, birch, sumac, and oak display some of the most beautiful colors. When combined with a background of evergreen forest, the result is one of the best shows in the nation. □

Source: AAA Michigan

RPD's Shelby Receives Promotion



Derran Shelby (second from right) of the Romulus Police Department was promoted to sergeant during a brief ceremony held at City Hall on August 25. Attending were Mayor Alan R. Lambert (second from left), Deputy Chief Michael St. Andre (left), and Deputy Chief Michael Coffey. Photo by R. E. Kadan

Taylor To Get New Park, Not Condos

Taylor City Council's recent decision to purchase eight acres of property from a condominium developer has been lauded by Mayor Cameron G. Priebe for stopping "unnecessary additional development" and allowing the City to develop park space.

The property sale halted the development of Timberline Meadows, located on Pardee Road at Superior Parkway. The purchase stopped phase two of a development that would have created 108 units in nine "12-plex" buildings. The site, which once housed the abandoned Source Club building, was approved for development by the Planning Commission in March 2004. Since then, only 60 of the planned 218 units have been built. Most are occupied.

Mayor Priebe has advocated halting the building of new apartments and condominiums in Taylor because the current supply of available dwellings vastly outweighs the demand. Instead, the City is turning the property into "green space." City workers have already started preparing the barren and uneven ground to become a park.

The transaction with Princeton Properties LLC was approved by a 5-1 vote at the Council's July 1 meeting, with Chairman Douglas A. Geiss and Councilmen Jill

Brandana, Herman "Butch" Ramik, Rick Sollars, and Suzanne L. Weycker supporting the motion, and Councilman Jeffrey P. Lamarand being the sole dissenter. (Councilwoman Jacklyn Molner was excused.) The closing on the sale took place in August.

The purchase price for the eight acres was \$400,000. In 2004, according to information released by the City, the property was appraised at more than \$4 million.

"With the infrastructure in place, this is a great price," said City assessor Michael Racklyeft.

The property's location – close to Meijer, Southland Center, and other commercial development along the Eureka corridor – could make it appealing to developers in the future. Joseph Nardone, executive director of the City's Office of Development Services, said the City now has the option of considering other development on the site when the time is right. He said the City's new Master Plan calls for officials to "protect the community the way it is."

"This is a great opportunity for the City to control the property, use it for parks and needed activity areas, and potentially turn it around for development purposes," Nardone said. □

Guest Commentary

Youth Summer Reading Program Was Big Hit

To the Editor:

The Romulus Public Library's Summer Reading Program for local youths was really great. One hundred forty-five children from Romulus, Huron Township, and surrounding areas participated, reading for a combined 122,789 minutes! Congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2008 program, "Catch the Reading Bug," and thanks to all those who joined us for our August 5 end-of-program party.

To kick off the party, we first held an awards ceremony, during which several youths were recognized for outstanding achievements. The honorees included Roderick Peterson, our top reader in the "grades 2-6" division, and Carson Selwa, first in the "age 5 and under" group. Each youth who received an award was given a certificate, gift card, and T-shirt.

Younger children taking part in the program were treated to weekly entertainment events at the library. Favorites included a performance by Jason Hudy (The Musician) that featured magic and comedy, and a visit from Audrey Zavodsky, racecar driver and Honorary USAF Thunderbird.

Romulus teens also enjoyed their programs. A pizza party was held at the end of to celebrate their accomplishments. We sure would have liked more teens to join the programs or to participate as volunteers. ... Maybe next year.

Everyone enjoyed the books and programs. Especially interesting for children was the process of turning in their reading time to earn prizes. Area businesses like Meijer (Belleville), Target (Canton), National City Bank, Skateland West, and McDonald's donated many prizes. A very special thanks to all the sponsors and the Friends of the Romulus Library, Michigan Friends of Education, Romulus Rotary Club, Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce, and Huron Rotary for their generous support. The library would like to thank everyone who made the 2008 Summer Reading Program such a huge success.

Gurpreet Samra, Children's Librarian
Romulus Public Library □

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Gold Party Benefits Animal Shelter

It's not often that attending a charity fund-raiser actually puts money *into* your pocket, but an upcoming gold-buying party will do just that. The event, to be held September 12-14 at the LaQuinta Inn of Romulus, will benefit the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund. (See the advertisement on page 7 for details.)

City Councilman Bill Wadsworth, chief spokesperson for the fund, is hoping for a good turnout, since F&B Precious Metals co-owner Ray Fox will be donating a minimum of 10% of the weekend's payout amount to the animal shelter.

"I know these gold-buying parties are very popular right now," said Wadsworth. "The fact that this one benefits a good cause makes it that much better."

F&B's Fox said customers can feel secure doing business with his company.

"We're not one of those shady, fly-by-night establishments that somebody started just to take advantage of a new fad," he stated. "We're licensed, bonded, and insured; we're careful to work with local officials and police in each community; and we even provide our own security for the safety of our customers and ourselves."

In preparation for the Romulus event, said Fox, he began by obtaining a business license from the City of Romulus. He also made arrangements with Romulus Police to share copies of his sales receipts (including customers' fingerprints), and to hold his merchandise for a minimum of nine days to give police a chance to compare the sale items with reports of stolen property.

"If, for example, someone sold us some South African Krugerrands, and the police had been notified of a recent theft involving Krugerrands, then, obviously, that transaction would be investigated," he explained.

In today's tough economic times, Fox said he is proud to provide a service that helps people pad their wallets.

"With essentials like food and gas at an all-time high, almost everyone could use extra money. This is a great opportunity to turn that broken necklace, mate-less earring, or out-of-style brooch into cash."

In fact, Fox said, his company buys gold, silver, and platinum in almost any form — even teeth.

Based on Fox's previous reported success in raising money for other charities, Councilman Wadsworth is hoping for a significant donation to his "pet" project.

"If you've ever been to our current animal shelter, you know how badly we need a new facility," he said. "Not only is it too small, it doesn't even have restroom facilities for staff members."

"To date," he continued, "donations and fund-raisers conducted by local schools and businesses have raised in excess of \$130,000 toward the construction of a new shelter. An additional \$35,000 to \$40,000 in labor and materials has also been pledged. It's a wonderful start — and I'm deeply grateful to everyone who has donated time and/or money — but we still have a ways to go."

According to Wadsworth, the City has received cost estimates of up to \$1 million to build a new animal shelter, but he believes it will take only half that amount to build a facility that's more than adequate.

"We don't need a Taj Mahal — just a clean, safe structure that has plenty of room for the housing and care of abandoned animals, as well as expanded pet adoption and education programs."

One big help in controlling costs will be Metro Airport's anticipated donation of a parcel of land located across from the DPW building on Wayne Road. Also, Tony Soave of Trident Properties donated \$5,000 for a preliminary schematic design, which will be on display at the Senior Center September 19-21 during the annual Pumpkin Festival BINGO! fund-raiser.

Wadsworth is hopeful that, with the help of Mayor Alan R. Lambert, his staff, and the Romulus Tax Increment Finance Authority Board, construction of a new facility will begin in the near future.

"Community Development director Tim Keyes has been working with the TIFA Board to amend their bylaws to allow them to help with the financing," he said. "If that comes through, work could begin soon."

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the support of Mayor Lambert, his staff members, my council colleagues, and the TIFA Board," he added. "With their help, one of my dearest dreams will soon become a reality." □

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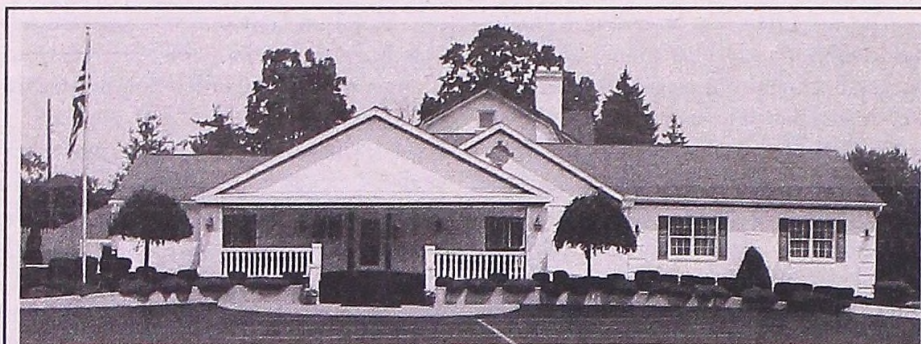
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Crane Celebrates 25th Anniversary



Crane Funeral Home – located at 36885 Goddard in Romulus – has undergone several renovations in the 25 years of Bill Crane's ownership.

Congratulations to Crane Funeral Home proprietor William "Bill" Crane, who recently celebrated his establishment's 25th anniversary.

Throughout the past quarter century, says Crane, he has striven to live up to his mission statement – a pledge "to serve the community with compassion and respect in every phase of funeral service" – and to extend that pledge to include working for the benefit of the community overall.

Since he came to Romulus in 1983, Crane has made many changes to what was then known as Baum Funeral Home. In 1995, he enlarged the facility and redecorated to create what he hopes is a quiet, appealing, comforting atmosphere. Most recently, the family lounge area was renovated to provide a refreshment area for families and guests, with a corner reserved for "smaller visitors."

Crane gets a great deal of personal and professional satisfaction from helping people during one of the most difficult times in their lives.

"I'm proud to be able to assist those who are grieving in making difficult decisions, and thereby relieving at least a little of their anxiety and stress," he said. "Many people are completely overwhelmed by all the details that have to be worked out, but my long experience can guide them into choosing a service that is a truly personal memorial of their loved one."

Bill's history of community service is just as long. In fact, his many years of involvement with local civic and charitable groups led the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce to select him as its Person of the Year in 1993.

"Serving people is what it's all about," he said. □

City of Taylor Gets 3 New Ambulances

City of Taylor Fire Chief Vince Fedel has reported that paramedics who operate three new ambulances with advanced life support are impressed with the quality of their ride and construction.

"I have received a lot of positive feedback from our responders," Fedel said. "Maintenance Battalion Chief Sam DiCicco and EMS Battalion Chief Bob Tompos were involved in the entire process of getting input on our older ambulances from the

crews. Changes were made to improve the ride quality compared to older units."

Deputy Chief Ed Sierota helped present the ambulance requests to City Council.

"We expect these new units to be in frontline service for six years," Sierota said.

The units were leased from the manufacturer for five years, with the first payment due one year after delivery. The City retains the right to purchase the vehicles for \$1 each after the last payment is made. □



New ambulances leased by the City of Taylor feature advanced life-support capabilities. Photo by Battalion Chief Sam DiCicco

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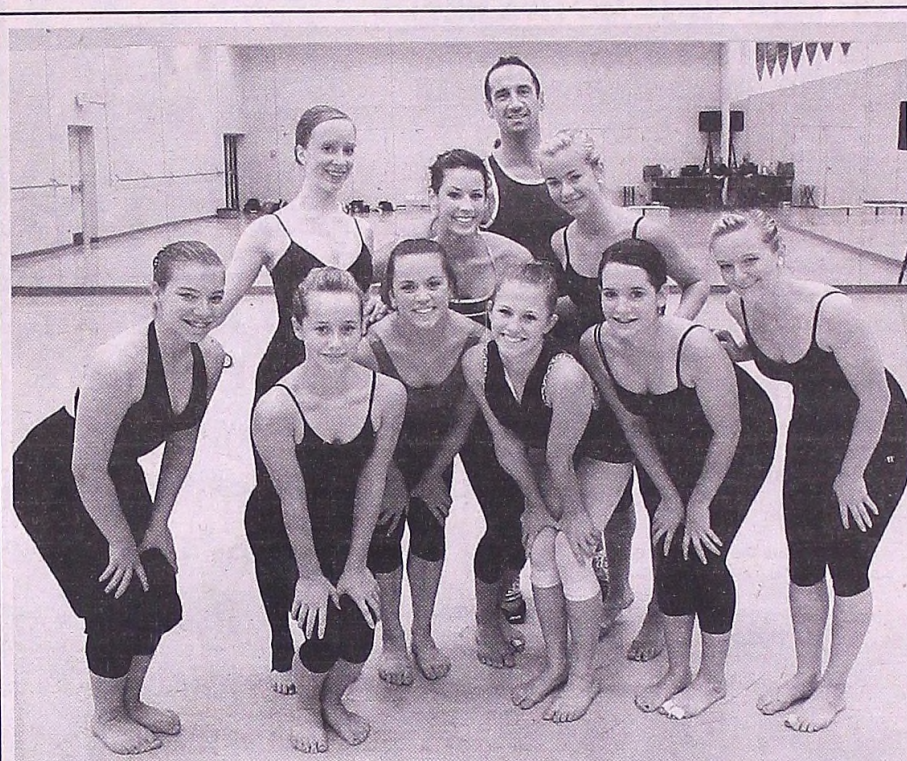
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Visiting Choreographer Brings Rhythmic Style to Ballet Americana



Joe Istre, nationally recognized choreographer, works with members of Ballet Americana on a piece he created for the company. Pictured with Istre are: (from left) back – Courtney Ehred of Allen Park, Samantha Blackburn of Taylor, and Kelly Staricha of Allen Park; front – Alyssa Tanner of Romulus, Leah Staricha of Allen Park, Rachel LePage of Southgate, Abby Phillips of Taylor, Mary Mitroka of Grosse Ile, and Kelsey Kochan of Taylor. Photo by Kathleen Trent

By Kathleen Trent

Ballet Americana, Taylor's home dance company, hosted a recent visit by renowned dance instructor and choreographer Joe Istre. Istre was on hand at the Taylor Recreation Center August 8–11 to choreograph a new piece, "The Sound of Light," which is performed to "Music for Wood Pieces" by Steven Reich. In this composition, Istre uses clapping, drumming, and wood tapping sounds in a literal interpretation of the music that builds during the performance to heart-pumping modern dance movements combined with clapping sounds, drum rhythms, and flashlight visuals.

Istre's performing credits include "42nd Street," "Chess," "Contact," and the "Radio City Christmas Spectacular," to name a few. He has made a name for himself in the dance world because of his cutting-edge, stylized movements and unique approach to teaching, keeping him in demand nationwide.

Joy Squire, Ballet Americana director, was pleased with the visitation.

"It was an absolute thrill to have Joe as our guest choreographer this year," Squire said. "He more than lived up to his stellar

reputation. The dancers loved the work he created for them, and we, as directors, could not have asked for more."

Squire said the piece will be utilized by the company at regional festivals.

"Many companies state that they are 'regional' in their information," Squire said, "but it is important to note that Ballet Americana is one of only three companies in Michigan – and the only one in Wayne County – to be recognized by the prestigious Regional Dance America."

Each year, according to Squire, Ballet Americana participates in Regional Dance America's Mid-States Festival. In 2010, Ballet Americana will host the event.

Squire noted other recent accomplishments of Ballet Americana dancers:

- Abby Phillips attended the School of American Ballet in New York City.
- Mary Mitroka, Courtney Ehred, Kaitlynn Schuster, and Samantha Blackburn attended the Joffrey Ballet summer sessions held in Flint.

For more information on Ballet Americana or Taylor Dance, call 734 374-3904 or visit www.balletamericana.org and www.taylor-dance.com.

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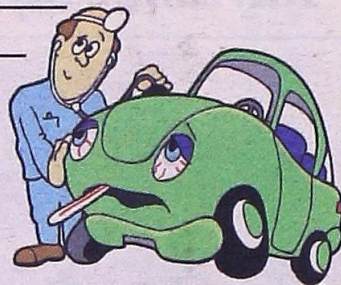
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You talked and we listened! We are proud to now offer Ballroom classes. Mr. Robert Kennedy will be joining the P & P Dance Centre staff, bringing more than 20 years of teaching and performing experience to our school! Mr. Kennedy has been trained in Foxtrot, Swing (Original, New, and West Coast), Waltz, Disco, Merengue, Samba, Tango, Cha-Cha, Mambo, Bolero, and Salsa!

We will also be offering a more intensive Gymnastics program to our students. We have expanded our facility to hold all new equipment to help enhance gymnastic training. Our new instructor, Jamie Vernon, is a certified USA Gymnastics instructor. She will be overseeing all of our gymnastics and cheer programs.

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**Saturday
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WCAA Invites Community Inside Metro Airport's New North Terminal

The Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) will offer the public its first glimpse inside the new North Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) as it hosts a number of preview events in advance of the terminal's scheduled opening on September 17.

"Detroit Metro Airport is one of Southeast Michigan's greatest assets, and the Airport Authority is eager to share this new addition to our award-winning facilities with the community we serve," said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson.

VIP Charity Preview Event

On Friday, September 5, the WCAA will host a charity preview inside the new terminal from 7 to 11 p.m. to benefit the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History, First Step, The Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and Traveler's Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit.

Tickets start at \$100 for this gala event. For details, visit www.airportpreview.com.

Community Open House

On Saturday, September 6, the Airport Authority will welcome all members of the public to experience the new terminal, free of charge, as it hosts an open house from 1 to 5 p.m.

While participants explore the new North Terminal, they will also enjoy music, dance, games, a scavenger hunt, and prizes provided by Radio Disney. In addition, the fun-filled family event will feature various high-tech interactive displays, including flight simulators, Rock Band, Dance Dance Revolution, Dancing Heads, and much more. Attendees will have the chance to win several prizes, including a plane load of gas in gas cards, a trip to Disney World, several round-trip airline tickets, and various other giveaways. Refreshments will be served.

Although the event is free, reservations are recommended. For more information, visit www.airportopenhouse.com.

Exclusive 'Family Day' Preview Planned

Prior to opening its doors to the public on September 6, the Airport Authority will host a private meeting to welcome the friends and family of all of its employees and those of its contractors and vendors who designed, built, or otherwise contributed to the planning, design, and construction of this new facility. Details are provided at www.dtwfamily.com

"Everyone will be proud of the new terminal, but the thousands of men and women who planned, designed, and built this beautiful new facility will have this special opportunity to show off their hard work to friends and family," said Robinson.

About Metro Airport's North Terminal

When it opens in 2008, the new North Terminal will be Detroit's home to Air Canada, American Airlines, AirTran Airways, Frontier Airlines, Lufthansa German Airlines, Royal Jordanian Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Spirit Airlines, United Airlines, US Airways, USA 3000, and charter airlines. Northwest Airlines and its SkyTeam™ partners – AeroMéxico, Air France, Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines – will remain in the McNamara Terminal.

The North Terminal Redevelopment Project is creating an estimated 3,200 new, local construction jobs, according to a WCAA statement. Upon completion of the facility, the existing Smith and Berry terminals will be decommissioned. Together with the McNamara Terminal, which opened in 2002, DTW will soon feature two new terminals, nearly 150 gates, six jet runways, and two modern Federal Inspection Services facilities for international arrivals.

Established in 2002 by the Michigan State Legislature, Wayne County Airport Authority is an independent agency responsible for the operation of DTW and Willow Run Airport (YIP). □

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, **the little paper** will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

the little paper

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, **the little paper** will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

the little paper

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Church Receives Donation of School Supplies



(Center) Romulus City Councilman Harry Crout and Romulus Community Schools Board of Education trustee Sandy Crout – pictured here with Bishop Reginald Williams and his wife, Pastor Patricia Williams – recently donated school supplies to God's City of Refuge on Beverly Road. The couple also donated school supplies to St. John's Lodge #44 during its annual Youth Day Picnic, held on August 23.

Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to 734-992-2052; or e-mail it to thelittlepaper@comcast.net by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 12.

Belleville

Story Time at the Library

Upcoming Story Time programs at the Fred C. Fischer Library (167 Fourth Street) include "Family Story Time" (6:30 p.m. each Monday from September 8 through October 13), "Preschool Pals" (ages 3.5 to 6 years; 11 a.m. each Tuesday from September 9 through October 14), and "Terrific Toddlers" (ages 2 to 3.5 years; 11 a.m. each Wednesday from September 10 through October 15).

Although the programs are free, pre-registration is required.

Call 734-699-3291.

Don Rochon Memorial

The 14th Annual Don Rochon Memorial Car Show will be held at 23501 Sumpter Road (behind the Community Center) on Sunday, September 28, beginning at 9 a.m. The show will feature competition in 21 different car categories as well as 2 for motorcycles and 1 for tractors. Judging will be at 1 p.m.

Cost of entry is \$10 per contest. Spectators get in free.

For information, call 734-461-6201

Brownstown Township

Preschool Kindermusik

The Woodhaven-Brownstown Schools, in cooperation with the Brownstown and Woodhaven recreation departments, is offering a "kindermusik" program for preschool children up to age 5. The program will be held at the Brownstown Community Center (21311 Telegraph Road) at 10 a.m. on the following Wednesdays: September 17, October 15*, November 19, and December 17*.

For information, or to register, call 734-675-0920.

*designates programs featuring craft projects

Huron Township

Nursery Accepting Applications for Fall

Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – located inside St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston) – is accepting enrollments for its 3- and 4-year-old classes. Classes focus on social development and kindergarten readiness, and feature activities in art, music, exercise, and educational field trips.

There is also a tots program for ages 18 months to 2 years.

HCCN is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization. For information, call Becki Graybeal at 734-941-3926.

Romulus

Second Monday Book Club

Meetings of the Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Advance registration is not required for this free program; just read the suggested book, then drop in and enjoy the discussion and refreshments.

Books planned for discussion include:

- *Land of the Morning Calm* by Harry Bryce – featuring a visit with the author (September 8),
- *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon (October 13), and
- *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean (November 10).

For information, call 734-942-7589.

Youth Group Swim Night

The Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) will hold a Youth Group Swim Night from 9 p.m. to midnight on Friday, September 12, and again on Friday, October 10.

Cost is \$8 per person.

For information, call 734-942-2223.

Hypnotherapy for Weight Loss

One-day hypnotherapy sessions for weight reduction will be held at the Romulus Recreation Building (11189 Shook Road) from noon to 1:30 p.m. on the following Saturdays: September 13, October 18, and November 22.

Cost per session is \$25 for residents and nonresidents. Deadlines for registration are September 11, October 16, and November 20, respectively.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Church Celebrates Grand Opening

Join the members of New Life Community Church at 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 14, for their Grand Opening at the Coleman Center (35351 Beverly Road). The event will feature biblically based preaching and inspiring praise and worship.

For information, call 734-844-9423 or visit newlifecommunitychurch4u.com.

Parade of Lights / Pumpkin Festival

The Romulus Parade of Lights/Pumpkin Festival is set for September 19–21.

For information, pick up a festival booklet at City Hall.

Fall Story Time

Children ages 3 to 5 are invited to take part in the Romulus Public Library's Fall Story Time program. Parents may choose between morning (10:30 a.m. each Wednesday from September 24 through October 29) or evening (6:30 p.m. each Tuesday from September 23 through October 28) sessions, which will be held at the library (11121 Wayne Road).

Although the program is free, space is limited, so preregistration is required.

For information, call 734-942-7589.

Scrapbooking Adventures

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation's final Scrapbooking Adventure program – open to ages 16 and up – will be held at 11189 Shook Road on Saturday, September 27, from 12 to 9 p.m.

A cost of \$20 per event covers three feet of crop space; dinner, snacks, and water; and a door-prize drawing. Scrapbooking supplies will be available for purchase. Pre-register at the Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) by September 26.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Romulus High School Reunion #1

A group of 1950s-era Romulus High School graduates who began organizing class reunions in 1976 has planned its latest for Saturday, September 27, from 2 to 10 p.m. at the Romulus Progressive Club (11580 Ozga). Dress is very casual; wear whatever you like. The focus will be on seeing old classmates and having fun.

A \$20-per-person cost includes lots of food and snacks; bring your own beverage. Send checks (immediate registration requested) to Hester Mostoller at 36886 Porter, Romulus, MI 48174.

For information, call either Carroll Rafalski (734-941-2162), Nancy Schon-sheck (734-941-8834), or Joanne Whaley (734-955-6037).

Romulus High School Reunion #2

Romulus High School's Class of 1973 will hold its 35-year reunion at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 24, at the Woodlands of Van Buren (39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne).

A \$75-per-person cost includes dinner, open bar, DJ, and dancing. Deadline for registration is Wednesday, October 8.

Call Piper Myers (734-941-9068) or send a check to her at 14360 Huron River Drive, Romulus, MI 48174.

Daddy/Daughter Dance

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation will hold its annual Daddy/Daughter Sweetheart Dance from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22, in the cafeteria at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road).

St. Aloysius Picnic Ends Summer with Fun



Father Festus Ejimadu enjoyed his young parishioners' soccer challenge at the St. Aloysius Catholic Church Picnic (Romulus) held on August 24. The event also featured face-painting by Daboo the clown, an ice-cream social, rides on the kids' train provided by the Romulus Wesleyan church, an appearance by members of the Romulus Fire Department, and all kinds of games, food, and refreshments. Photo by R. E. Kadau

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continued on page 10

Sassy Seniors

For more information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate senior center.

Brownstown

21311 Telegraph • 734-675-0920

Potluck & Games Night

The Brownstown Senior Center's next Potluck & Games Night is set for Monday, September 22, at 5 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and a \$.50 donation, or come without a dish and make a \$3 donation. (The Center provides a meat dish and beverages.)

Advance registration (at the Recreation desk) is required.

Bowling

Local seniors are encouraged to come and bowl at Flat Rock Lanes (14700 Telegraph Road) at 1 p.m. each Friday.

There's no need to preregister.

Special Trips

Both residents and nonresidents are invited to take part in one of these trips.

- **Mackinac Island** (October 7-10; \$647 cost, based on double occupancy, includes transportation, 3 nights' accommodations at the Grand Hotel, breakfast and dinner each day, and a wide variety of activities); and
- **"Sha-Boom!"** (Thursday, October 16; \$30 cost includes transportation, lunch at BD's Mongolian BBQ, and admission to the show at the Hartland Performing Arts Auditorium).

Regular Events

Regular programs offered by the Center include:

- blood-pressure checks (first Thursday of the month, 12 p.m.),
- Travel Club meetings (second Monday of the month, 10:30 a.m.),
- card games (Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- quilting (Wednesdays, 9 a.m.), and
- exercise (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.; \$.25 donation/class).

Romulus

36525 Bibbins • 734-955-4120

Senior Tax Deferment

The Romulus City Council has unanimously voted to defer the due date for payment of seniors' 2008 summer and winter taxes, without penalties and interest, until February 28, 2009. In order to qualify for deferment, a person must be at least 62 years old and meet established income guidelines.

Applications – available in the City Treasurer's Office (11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174) – must be filed by Tuesday, September 30.

Crafters Wanted!

The Romulus Senior Center is looking for crafters who would like to sell their wares at the upcoming Pumpkin Festival, set for September 20-21. Cost for a table for two days is \$30. Sale hours will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Advance registration is required.

Last Tigers Game

The Senior Center's final trip of the season to Comerica Park will be on Thursday, September 25, to see the Detroit Tigers play the current American League East leaders, the Tampa Bay Rays.

Cost is \$15. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come/first-served basis.

Taylor

6750 Troy • 313-291-7740

Fall Classes

The Ford Senior Activity Center is now accepting registrations for fall classes, which will begin the week of September 15. Topics will include one-stroke painting, oil painting, stained glass, quilting, ballroom dancing, yoga, and strength training.

Call the Center for details on times, costs, etc. Preregistration is required.

Taylor Seniors Win Olympic Medals

Medal winners at the annual Downriver Senior Olympics included the following Taylor residents:

- Genevieve Arrage (gold – pinocle),
- Antoinette Babinski (bronze – golf/BB),
- Kenneth Babinski (gold – golf/closest to pin; silver – golf/BB),
- Thomas Barbour (silver – darts),
- John Bogacz (bronze – euchre),
- Charles Bowers (bronze – basketball shoot),
- Howard Cohen (gold – billiards; silver – soccer kick; bronze – basketball shoot, softball throw, and swimming/backstroke),
- Bill Cole (silver – billiards),
- Eugen Csatos (gold – soccer kick; silver – tennis; bronze – ping pong),
- Paul Cummings (silver – bowling),
- Shirley Doom (silver – women's bocce ball),
- Arthur Fenske (gold – ping-pong),
- Richard Fobar (gold – euchre; silver – ping-pong and pinocle),
- Joan Hasting (bronze – golf/BB),
- Melinda Hylton (gold – bowling; and silver – ping-pong),
- Ray Johnson (gold – golf/BB and longest drive),
- Shirley Kothe (gold – bowling),
- Mary Kreczkowski (gold – frisbee throw, ping-pong, softball throw, and women's bocce ball),
- Thomas Remisowski (bronze – billiards),
- Robert Reynolds (gold – darts),
- Valinda Rudelek (silver – golf/BB),
- Clyde Smith (bronze – billiards and golf/BB),
- Christie Stamper (gold – BB and longest drive),
- John Sterbenz (gold – basketball shoot and ring toss; bronze – soccer kick and tennis),
- Donald Walter (gold – basketball shoot, horseshoes, and shuffleboard; silver – ring toss),
- Patrick Wooley (gold – football throw; silver – golf/BB and softball throw). □

Community Calendar

continued from page 9

Tickets for this immensely popular event *must* be purchased in advance.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Children's Craft Programs

Youngsters are invited to sign up for one or more of the following one-day craft programs, which will be offered by the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

- **Halloween** (October 25),
- **Thanksgiving** (November 15), and
- **Christmas Tree Trim** (December 6).

Although there is no charge to participate, advance registration is requested.

For information, call 734-942-7589.

Free Museum, Historic House Tours

The Romulus Historical Museum and historic Samuel L. Kingsley home – located on Hunt Street downtown – are open to the public Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

For information, call 734-697-9628.

Taylor

Golf Outing Benefits KHS Band

An important fund-raiser for the John F. Kennedy High School Marching Band is set for September 14 at Taylor Meadows Golf Club (25360 Ecorse Road).

"Soaring at the Meadows" is an 18-hole golf outing held annually to support the band. Participants also receive a continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner, use of a cart, and a chance to take part in a variety of contests on the golf course.

For the fourth year in a row, Gorno Ford has donated a new car to serve as a prize for the outing. A lucky golfer could win a two-year lease.

Registration is scheduled for 7 a.m.

Tickets are \$120; dinner tickets, \$40.

To purchase tickets, call Charley Johnson at 313-304-2173. Checks should be made payable to "Friends of Kennedy Band" and sent to 10200 Holland Road, Taylor, MI 48180. Walk-up golfers are welcome.

Taylor Center High School Reunion

Alumni from Taylor Center's 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1992 are organizing a joint class reunion at the MotorCity Hotel and Casino in Downtown Detroit.

Tickets for the event – set for 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 27 – are \$75 each.

Visit TaylorAlumni.org for information.

Beautification Contest

The City of Taylor Beautification Commission is seeking nominees for beautification awards for residences and businesses. This year, a third category has been added for apartment complexes. The committee wants to honor those who help make the city a beautiful place to live and work.

To nominate someone, contact Michele McNeely at 734-374-1450 or mmcneely@ci.taylor.mi.us. Property address required.

Elsewhere

Laurel & Hardy Fan Club

The next meeting of Sons of the Desert, a Laurel & Hardy Fan Club, will be held on Thursday, September 18, at Mama Mia's Restaurant (27770 Plymouth Road, west of Inkster). Enter the banquet door; parking is available across the street in the west lot. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a movie at 7:30 p.m.

For information, contact Frank Spunar at 734-955-2487. □

Youth Day Benefits Local School Children



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert was greeted by Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Master Clarence Rounds and members of St. John's Lodge #44 and Order of the Eastern Star-Leah Chapter #43 when he attended their annual "Back-to-School Youth Festival" last month. The event featured a mobile dental unit that provided free checkups for kids, as well as a CHIP (Child Identification Program) exhibit that gave parents and guardians the means to get vital information to emergency responders, if necessary. St. John's Lodge #44, with donations from Mayor Lambert and other community supporters, provided school supplies to children at no cost. Food, refreshments, and a watermelon-eating contest rounded out the day for the children and their parents. *Photo by R. E. Kadan*

Johnston Litho Team Takes Top Prize



Representing Johnston Lithograph, Inc., of Romulus, the foursome of (from left) Kurt Johnston, Steve Davenport, Keith Johnston, and Duane Stothers shot 53 (19 under par) to take first prize in the annual Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing, held at the Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course (Wayne) on August 21. Photo by R. E. Kadau

Obituaries

Harriet Helen Whitehill

Harriet Helen Whitehill of Mosher-ville/Jonesville, Michigan (formerly of Romulus, Michigan) passed away on Friday, July 18, 2008, at the Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility and Rehabilitation Center in Coldwater, Michigan.

Harriet was born to Harrison and Nevada Hunter in Buffalo, New York, on Sunday, December 1, 1912. She was raised in the Oil City, Pennsylvania area, where she met and married Gerald Kenneth Whitehill on August 14, 1932.

Harriet—called “Nanny,” “Hat,” or “Bird” by those who loved her—was an avid reader, and loved to cook and garden. She was also known for her hats, quick wit, poems, songs, and giving.

Harriet is survived by 3 children, Keith (Marilyn) Whitehill, Jane (Dave) Raker, and Jim (Betty) Whitehill; and a nephew, Don (Donna) Kinch. She is also survived by 26 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, 4 great-great-grandchildren, and many friends and loved ones.

Among those preceding her in passing were her husband, Gerald Whitehill; a son, Wylie Whitehill; and a daughter, Diane Summerfield.

A memorial service took place on Tuesday, July 22, at the home of Dave and Jane Raker (Jonesville).

Memorial tributes to the Jonesville or Romulus public libraries would be appreciated by the family.

Max Zilka, Jr.

Max Zilka, Jr., of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on Friday, August 29, 2008, at the age of 80.

The son of the late Max Sr. and Emma (Opificius) Zilka was born in Huron Township, Michigan, on Thursday, January 5, 1928.

A member of the Taylor and Brownstown senior citizen groups, Max was a man of varied interests. He always looked forward to going north to his cottage, and enjoyed farming, gardening, and tractors. Dancing and mall-walking were also among his favorite activities. In his earlier years, he liked to hunt.

Max is survived by his wife, Mary V. Dubke-Zilka; a daughter, Rhonda (Barry) Kaminski (Taylor); 2 sons, Robert P. (Judy) Zilka (New Boston, MI) and

Ronald J. Zilka (Brownstown, MI); 3 grandchildren; a great-grandchild; 2 brothers, Melvin (Romulus, MI) and Marvin (Skidway Lake, MI); a stepdaughter, Michelle Voineag (Northville, MI); and 2 stepsons, John Dubke and Eric (Julie) Dubke (all of Gibraltar, MI).

Among those who predeceased him was his first wife, Mary Jane (Clark) Zilka, who passed away in 1997.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, September 3, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with the Reverend Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas (St. Paul United Church of Christ) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

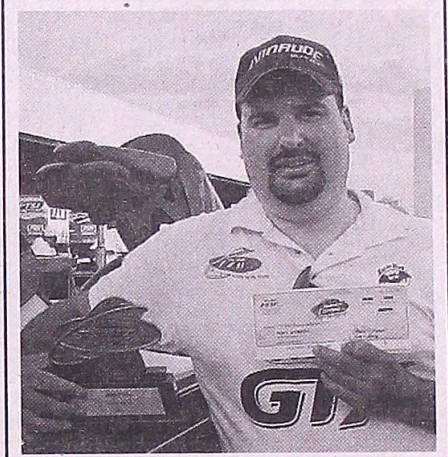
Memorial tributes to St. Paul Church would be greatly appreciated. □

Congratulations!

Two From Robbins Family Earn Prizes



Bryce Robbins



Todd Robbins

Todd Robbins of Romulus won \$2,000 by coming in 10th in the co-angler division of the Wal-Mart FLW Tournament held July 10–13 in Trenton. The event drew fishermen from all over the US as well as Canada and even Mexico.

One of Todd's five sons, 10-year-old Bryce, finished first in the 12-years-and-

under division of a fiddle contest at the Manchester Riverfolk Music and Art Festival on August 2. He was then invited to play on the main stage in front of 2,000 people. Look for him to perform again in the upcoming Huron Township Applefest fiddle contest, set for 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 4, on the Applefest stage. □

Murphy Wins Miss Michigan Coed Title

Twenty-year-old Da'Sanza Murphy, daughter of Alfred and Brenda Murphy of Taylor, has won the title of Miss Michigan American Coed, which qualifies her to represent Michigan in the National Miss American Coed Pageant.

Murphy will attend the pageant for her age group at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida during Thanksgiving week, and will compete with other outstanding young women from across the nation for thousands of dollars in cash, scholarships, and prizes.

Besides the coed pageant, optional competitions will be held in talent, speech, academic achievement, volunteer service, cheerleading, photogenic quality, acting, and modeling categories.

In the Michigan tournament, Murphy took first place in the talent competition with a song performed in Italian. She earned additional first-place finishes in the categories of sportswear, patriotic wear, best smile, and best personality.

Murphy attends Wayne State University, where she will be a junior this fall. She is majoring in communications—specifically, media arts—to prepare for a career in broadcasting, either as a news anchor or television host. She would also like to be a motivational speaker for teens.

Murphy enjoys dancing, and is a proud member of Taylor's Ballet Americana. She



Da'Sanza Murphy

also sings, plays the piano, and performs volunteer work. □

As part of our continued commitment to community service, *the little paper* publishes obituaries and personal notices, free of charge, for residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, and Taylor. For more information, call 734-941-1907.

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